

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 11 has been cancelled.

1. (previously presented) A process for the separation of 1,4-butanediol mononitrate from a solution of 1,4-butanediol dinitrate and 1,4-butanediol in a water-immiscible organic solvent, comprising:

- a) extraction of 1,4-butanediol mononitrate from said solution by water;
- b) extraction of 1,4-butanediol mononitrate from the resulting aqueous solution, by a water-immiscible organic solvent.

2. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the extraction according to steps a) and b) is carried out in counter-current in two or more extraction columns.

3. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the extraction according to steps a) and b) is carried out in counter-current in 2, 3 or 4 extraction columns.

4. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 3, wherein the extraction according to steps a) and b) is carried

out in counter-current in 2 extraction columns.

5.(currently amended) A process according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-4~~ further comprising washing the aqueous phase from step a) with the same water-immiscible organic solvent as that used in the subsequent step b).

6.(currently amended) A process according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-4~~, comprising the extraction of the resulting organic solution from step a) with the aqueous phase from step b) and the recycle of the aqueous solution to the extraction column of step a).

7.(currently amended) A process according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-6~~, comprising 1 to 4 extraction cycles according to steps a) and b).

8.(currently amended) A process according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-7~~, wherein the water-immiscible organic solvent is an organic chlorinated solvent.

9.(previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 8, wherein the chlorinated solvent is selected from the group consisting of dichloromethane, trichloromethane, tetrachloromethane, trichloroethane and tetrachloroethane.

10.(previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 9, wherein the chlorinated solvent is dichloromethane.